

# MEMO

**RE: Ordinance 2012-9 brought to the Eatonville Town Council at the request of the Finance Committee**  
**Public Safety Excess Levy (AMOUNT TO BE DETERMINED BY COUNCIL)**

2012 Assessed Value = \$ 183,009,213 .310 = \$ 567,328.56

2013 Assessed Value = \$ 161,048,107 .310 = \$ 499,249.13

Difference = \$ 68,079.43

In 2013 the Town will receive \$68,079.43 less tax revenue based on Pierce County's projected 12% drop in property values. If the values drop by 16%, the amount of lost tax revenue will be \$90,772.57.

Based on a 12% decline in tax revenues, the Town could ask for an additional percentage on the excess levy based on 60% of the population. To recover from the drop in property values based on -12% the Town would need to raise the excess levy by 0.4227273 cents.

0.25 \$	40,262.03
0.35 \$	56,366.84
0.37 \$	59,587.80
0.38 \$	61,198.28
0.39 \$	62,808.76
0.4 \$	64,419.24
0.41 \$	66,029.72
0.42 \$	67,640.21
0.4227273 \$	68,079.43
0.43 \$	69,250.69
0.44 \$	70,861.17
0.45 \$	72,471.65
0.5 \$	80,524.05
0.51 \$	82,134.53
0.52 \$	83,745.02
0.53 \$	85,355.50
0.54 \$	86,965.98
0.55 \$	88,576.46
0.56 \$	90,186.94
0.56363635 \$	90,772.57
0.57 \$	91,797.42
0.58 \$	93,407.90
0.75 \$	120,786.08
1 \$	161,048.11

Other things to consider when making a decision on what amount to choose:

1. Not replacing Town Clerk with a new employee = \$23,734.50 savings in current expense if current percents are used for the 2013 budget.
2. Not hiring a fifth police officer: Josh Mercer's wages = \$56,649.59 and benefits = \$27,930.72 for a total of \$ 84,580.31 savings in current expense. Also a gas savings of \$850.00+ per month and a total of \$1000.00 for training /certification.
3. Cost allocation percents for 2013.
4. Mayor and Council Salaries put back into current expense = \$27,300 estimated yearly total.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-9**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EATONVILLE, PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO FUNDING FOR POLICE, FIRE, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES WITH PROPERTY TAXES; PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE TOWN AT THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 6, 2012, A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF EATONVILLE FOR A SPECIAL EXCESS LEVY TO COVER PUBLIC SAFETY EXPENSES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, RATIFICATION OF PAST CONSISTENT ACTIONS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Eatonville has suffered from decreased revenues as a result of a slow economy and declining property values;

**WHEREAS**, the Pierce County Assessor has advised the Town that property values, and consequently Town revenue, will decrease by up to 16 percent in 2013;

**WHEREAS**, the Town currently levies property taxes at the maximum statutory rate;

**WHEREAS**, Article VII, § 2(a) of the Washington State Constitution authorizes the Town of Eatonville to submit to the Town's qualified voters a proposition for an increased property tax levy beyond statutory and constitutional limits,

**WHEREAS**, providing public safety to the public as a whole is a priority of the Town of Eatonville's Administration and Council and expected revenues for 2013 will be insufficient to provide the same level of public safety to the Town's citizens;

**THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the Town of Eatonville as follows:

Section 1. A proposition authorizing the Town to levy an increase of \$###,### in property taxes to maintain current public safety shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the Town at the a general election to be held November 6, 2012. The Pierce County Auditor is hereby requested to assume jurisdiction of and to call and conduct such election and to submit to the qualified electors of the Town the proposition set forth in Section 2 below. The Mayor and/or Town Attorney are authorized to modify the proposition as directed by Pierce County Auditor. The Town Clerk is hereby directed to certify the proposition set forth in Section 2 and forward the proposition to the Pierce County Auditor, and to do so not later than August 7, 2012 as provided by RCW 29A.04.321.

Section 2. The proposition to be submitted to the voters shall be in substantially the following form:

TOWN OF EATONVILLE – PROPOSITION 1

The Eatonville Town Council passed Ordinance 2012-9 to ask voters to authorize an excess property tax levy to occur in 2013 to provide \$##,###, estimated to be an additional \$#.## per \$1,000 in assessed value, for a total estimated rate of \$#.## per \$1,000 in assessed value. The funds raised by this levy would be devoted to pay for public safety services (police, fire, and emergency services). Should this measure pass?

YES ☐ NO ☐

Section 3. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or part of this ordinance of the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall be confined in its operation to the controversy in which it was rendered and shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any parts thereof to any person or circumstances and to this end the provisions of each clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this law are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 4. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this ordinance is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect after publication of a summary, consisting of the title, pursuant to RCW 35.27.300.

1ST READING: 07/09/2012  
2ND READING: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/2012 / 2ND READING WAIVED (EMC 2.04.009(C))

Passed by the Council of the Town of Eatonville at a regular meeting held this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ray Harper, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Town Attorney